



LANESBOROUGH

Berkshire County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The town of Lanesborough is in northwestern Massachusetts. Potter Mountain, of the Taconic Range, divides the town from Hancock on the west, and a spur of the Hoosac Mountains separates it from Cheshire on the east. These two ranges, in a series of smaller hills, unite at the northern boundary at the foot of Mount Greylock, the highest mountain in the state; and the south opens out to an extended and beautiful view down the valley of Pittsfield and the mountains beyond. Pontoosuc Lake, one of the most popular recreation areas in Berkshire County bisects Lanesborough and Pittsfield.

Lanesborough is situated in Berkshire County, a region of hills and low mountains that widen to create the Berkshire Valley in the south. It is 140 miles west of Boston; 37 miles from Albany, New York; and 152 miles from New York City.

Lanesborough, which was originally New Framingham, was incorporated in 1765 and presently has a population of 3,032. It is a quiet suburban area, where people come to live and educate their children, but the majority of them earn their living in the neighboring towns and cities.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Northwestern Massachusetts, bordered by New Ashford on the north, Cheshire and Dalton on the east, Pittsfield on the south, and Hancock on the west. Lanesborough is 140 miles west of Boston; 37 miles from Albany, New York; and 152 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 29.74 sq. miles

Land Area: 29.05 sq. miles

Population: 3,032

Density: 104 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Great Barrington Station)

Normal temperature in January.....20.1°F

Normal temperature in July.....68.1°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.8"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Cheshire, Hancock, Pittsfield East, Pittsfield West

Regional Planning Agency

Berkshire County

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Pittsfield



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 442-1167

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1765

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	1,835		
Democrats	501	27.3	%
Republicans	226	12.3	%
Other parties	3	0.2	%
Unenrolled Voters	1,105	60.2	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Lanesborough town, Berkshire County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	2,990	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	2,990	100.0
Male.....	1,470	49.2	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	20	0.7
Female.....	1,520	50.8	Mexican.....	2	0.1
Under 5 years.....	153	5.1	Puerto Rican.....	5	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	198	6.6	Cuban.....	4	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	222	7.4	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	9	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	221	7.4	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	2,970	99.3
20 to 24 years.....	100	3.3	White alone.....	2,900	97.0
25 to 34 years.....	327	10.9	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	551	18.4	Total population.....	2,990	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	501	16.8	In households.....	2,979	99.6
55 to 64 years.....	225	7.5	Householder.....	1,203	40.2
60 to 64 years.....	102	3.4	Spouse.....	679	22.7
65 to 74 years.....	207	6.9	Child.....	889	29.7
75 to 84 years.....	151	5.1	Own child under 18 years.....	667	22.3
85 years and over.....	32	1.1	Other relatives.....	70	2.3
Median age (years).....	40.2	(X)	Under 18 years.....	29	1.0
18 years and over.....	2,274	76.1	Nonrelatives.....	138	4.6
Male.....	1,108	37.1	Unmarried partner.....	82	2.7
Female.....	1,166	39.0	In group quarters.....	11	0.4
21 years and over.....	2,171	72.6	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	450	15.1	Noninstitutionalized population.....	11	0.4
65 years and over.....	390	13.0	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	173	5.8	Total households.....	1,203	100.0
Female.....	217	7.3	Family households (families).....	840	69.8
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	395	32.8
One race.....	2,963	99.1	Married-couple family.....	679	56.4
White.....	2,911	97.4	With own children under 18 years.....	309	25.7
Black or African American.....	21	0.7	Female householder, no husband present.....	114	9.5
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	1	-	With own children under 18 years.....	68	5.7
Asian.....	24	0.8	Nonfamily households.....	363	30.2
Asian Indian.....	15	0.5	Householder living alone.....	287	23.9
Chinese.....	4	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	109	9.1
Filipino.....	2	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	425	35.3
Japanese.....	2	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	286	23.8
Korean.....	1	-	Average household size.....	2.48	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.95	(X)
Other Asian ¹	-	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	1,382	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	1,203	87.0
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	1	-	Vacant housing units.....	179	13.0
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	83	6.0
Some other race.....	5	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.9	(X)
Two or more races.....	27	0.9	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	15.3	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	1,203	100.0
White.....	2,938	98.3	Owner-occupied housing units.....	1,059	88.0
Black or African American.....	28	0.9	Renter-occupied housing units.....	144	12.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	9	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.54	(X)
Asian.....	32	1.1	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.00	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	5	0.2			
Some other race.....	10	0.3			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 0

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Lanesborough is situated in Berkshire County, a region of hills and low mountains that widen to create the Berkshire Valley in the south. The major cities and towns are linked together by U.S. Route 7. North Adams and Pittsfield are major points of entry for rail freight into Massachusetts, and the region has several commercial airports. Public roads and highways meet the requirements of modern transportation.

Major Highways

The principal highway is U.S. Route 7 running N-S through the Berkshires.

Rail

There is no passenger or freight rail service in Lanesborough, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts is easily accessible.

Bus

Lanesborough is a member of the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA), which provides fixed route service to Pittsfield, Cheshire, Adams, and North Adams. User side paratransit services are available for the elderly and disabled.

Other

The Pittsfield Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located in neighboring Pittsfield, has 2 asphalt runways 3,496' and 5,000' long. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision. Scheduled airline service is available in Albany, New York, and at Bradley Field in Connecticut (both approx. an hour from Pittsfield).



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.